

The cutting down of ALB-infested trees in the core of the Carteret-Woodbridge infestation zone is set to start on Monday, November 29. The New Jersey Department of Agriculture has scheduled a media-outreach event for Tuesday, November 23, at 3:30 p.m., to make the public aware of the impending work. It will begin at the corner of Blair Road and Roosevelt Avenue in Carteret.

Local, county and state officials from the area are invited to attend the session, which will include Secretary of Agriculture Charles M. Kuperus leading a walk-through of the first area to be addressed, including a mobile home park and along a stream. Members of the ALB eradication team also will be on hand to discuss how trees will be taken down and disposed of, as well as plans for replacing the trees with varieties the beetle will not attack. During this first phase of cutting, roughly 1,000 trees are expected to be removed to halt the beetle's spread. Eventually, as many as 4,000 trees will have to come down. In addition to the tour, the New Jersey Department of Agriculture is sending out an informational letter to all residents who are scheduled to lose a tree(s) on their property.

On November 9, a conference call was held to discuss preliminary tree removal plans for the first stage of removals. In attendance was USDA personnel Christine Markham, Mike Stefan, Vic Mastro, Alan Sawyer, and Barry Emens, and NJDA personnel Carl Schulze, Joe Zoltowski and Tom Denholm.

On November 10, a second infested tree with Asian Longhorned Beetle was found in the City of Rahway. The tree, a red maple with three exit holes and five egg sites, was located on a private residence. This marks the 410<sup>th</sup> tree determined to be infested with the beetle in the quarantine zone that includes Woodbridge, Carteret, Rahway and Linden. As this most recent find is within two blocks from the western edge of the quarantine zone, this will require the boundary lines to be adjusted.

Field surveys continued this week with more than 43,260 trees inspected to date. The entire quarantine zone is 10.5 square miles. Three new compliance agreements were issued this week for a total of 66. Twenty-four USFS climbers, one NJ Department of Agriculture climber, and 27 program personnel from USDA APHIS PPQ, NJ Department of Agriculture, NJ Forestry, and USDA Grain and Tobacco are performing survey and regulatory activities.

On Dec 5, Mike Bohne, USDA Forest Service Entomologist/ALB Outreach coordinator for the New York ALB Cooperative Eradication Program, Rosa Yoo, New Jersey Forestry/ALB Outreach coordinator, and Megan Sheremata, New York State Forestry/ALB Outreach coordinator will conduct an Urban Forestry Workshop at the Greenbelt Environmental Education Center, High Rock Park, Staten Island, NY. The workshop will provide information on the ALB infestation in Carteret, NJ; the ALB infestations found this summer in NYC and how to look for, identify and report any sighting of the ALB.